

In the claims:

Please substitute the following full listing of claims for the claims as originally filed or most recently amended.

1. (Previously Presented) An online distribution system, comprising:
 - a search server;
 - a data distribution server;
 - a download terminal connected to said search server through said data distribution server; and
 - a personal terminal to which said search server is connectable;

said search server including a database for storing a plurality of titles of distribution information, title search means for searching the titles stored in said database for a title designated for subscription from said personal terminal, and subscription information storage means for storing the title searched out by said title search means and identification information transmitted from said personal terminal;

said data distribution server including distribution information storage means for storing the distribution information;

said download terminal including identification information acquisition means for acquiring identification information inputted from the outside, first readout means for reading out, based on the identification information acquired by said identification information acquisition means, the title stored in said subscription information storage means of said search server which corresponds to the identification information, second readout means for reading out the distribution information corresponding to the title read out by said first readout means from said distribution information storage means of said

data distribution server, and recording means for recording the distribution information read out by said second readout means onto a recording medium.

2. (Original) An online distribution system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said download terminal further includes settlement means for performing a settlement in regard to the transmission of the distribution information for said personal terminal.

3. (Original) An online distribution system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a cache server in which part of the distribution information stored in said distribution information storage means of said data distribution server is stored in advance, and wherein said download terminal acquires, when the distribution information of the title corresponding to the identification information stored in said subscription information storage means of said search server is stored in said cache server, the distribution information from said cache server, but acquires, when the distribution information is not stored in said cache server, the distribution information from said distribution information storage means of said data distribution server.

4. (Original) An online distribution system, comprising:

- a search server;
 - a data distribution server; and
 - a personal terminal connected to said data distribution server through said search server;
- said search server including a database for storing a plurality of titles of distribution information, title search means for searching the titles stored in said database for a title designated for subscription from said personal terminal, and

subscription information storage means for storing the title searched out by said title search means;

said data distribution server including distribution information storage means for storing the distribution information, title acquisition means for acquiring the title stored in said subscription information storage means of said search server, distribution information readout means for reading out the distribution information corresponding to the title acquired by said title acquisition means from said distribution information storage means, and transmission means for transmitting the distribution information read out by said distribution information readout means to said personal terminal.

5. (Original) An online distribution system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said data distribution server further includes settlement means for performing a settlement in regard to the transmission of the distribution information for said personal terminal.

6. (Previously Presented) An online distribution method for an online distribution system wherein a download terminal is connected to a search server through a data distribution server and said search server is connectable to a personal terminal, comprising:

the steps performed by said search server of storing a plurality of titles of distribution information into a database of said search server, searching the titles stored in said database for a title designated for subscription from said personal terminal, and storing the searched out title and identification information transmitted from said personal terminal as subscription information;

the step performed by said data distribution server of storing the distribution information into

distribution information storage means; and

the steps performed by said download terminal acquiring identification information inputted from the outside, reading out, based on the acquired identification information, the title which corresponds to the identification information stored as the subscription in said search server, reading out the distribution information corresponding to the read out title from said distribution information storage means of said data distribution server, and recording the read out distribution information onto a recording medium.

7. (Original) An online distribution method for an online distribution system wherein a personal terminal is connected to a data distribution server through a search server, comprising:

the steps performed by said search server of storing a plurality of titles of distribution information into a database of said search server, searching the titles stored in said database for a title designated for subscription from said personal terminal, and transmitting the searched out title to said data distribution server; and

the steps performed by said data distribution server of storing the distribution information into distribution information storage means, reading out the distribution information corresponding to the title transmitted from said search server from said distribution information storage means, and transmitting the read out distribution information to said personal terminal.

In the Abstract:

Please substitute the following Abstract for the Abstract as originally filed. A clean copy of the following Abstract is attached as a separate page 18.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An online distribution system by which the time required for a downloading procedure in a shop can be performed in a short time ~~is disclosed. A by a~~ download terminal ~~is~~ connected to a search server through a data distribution server ~~and the search server which~~ is connectable to a personal terminal. The search server stores a plurality of titles of distribution information ~~into a data base~~, searches the titles ~~stored in the database~~ for a title designated for subscription from the personal terminal, and stores the searched out title and identification information transmitted from the personal terminal ~~as subscription information. The data distribution server stores the distribution information into a distribution information storage section.~~ The download terminal acquires identification information inputted from the outside, reads out, based on the acquired identification information, the title which corresponds to the identification information ~~stored as subscription information in from~~ the search server, reads out the distribution information corresponding to the read out title from ~~the distribution information storage section of~~ the data distribution server, and records the read out distribution information onto a recording medium.